

Whereas, Mr. Raytis was a publisher in the community for six years.

Whereas, Mr. Raytis received the Sertoma Service to Mankind Award in 2000, and remains active in the community.

Whereas, Mr. Raytis has continuously demonstrated his commitment and love for his family, his community and his country, I am honored to call him a friend.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE REAUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the "Patent and Trademark Office Reauthorization Act," and urge my colleagues to support what will prove to be an important contribution to our high-tech economy.

Briefly, by way of background, the operations of the Patent and Trademark Office are fully-funded through user-fee revenue; the agency receives no stipend from the taxpayers. Since 1992, however, more than \$600 million in PTO funds have been withheld and used for other purposes. This policy results in manpower shortages and inhibits the development of modernization efforts at the agency. With PTO workloads increasing every year, the ultimate losers are the men and women who pay the fees to have their patent and trademark applications processed. Our country suffers as well, since the development and export of intellectual property is crucial to the national economy.

The Patent and Trademark Office Reauthorization Act will protect PTO revenues from diversion to other programs. The bill accomplishes this goal by amending two key provisions of section 42 of the Patent Act, which prescribes the PTO funding mechanism.

First, the requirement in subsection (b) that all agency funds be credited to a special PTO Appropriation Account is deleted; instead, such funds are to be credited to a PTO Account in the Treasury.

Second, the requirement in subsection (c) that subjects agency access to and expenditure of collected fees to appropriations is also deleted. This means that the Commissioner will have the authority to collect all fees and use them for agency operations until expended.

This is a necessary bill for reasons that are known by all who support the operations of the Patent and Trademark Office. I urge my colleagues again to endorse the measure.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MICHAEL G. WOODS

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor a dedicated public servant in

my hometown of Norwalk, California. Sergeant Michael G. Woods of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will retire next month after 23 years of service to the citizens of Los Angeles County. It is truly an honor to recognize him today.

Sergeant Woods moved to the United States from England in 1957 and graduated from Glendale High School in 1964. Sergeant Woods joined the United States Navy in 1965 and served in Vietnam from 1966–1967. After being discharged from the service in 1968, he married his wife Jackie and began work for Sears, Roebuck and Co., working at the Glendale and Hollywood stores. Michael and Jackie became the proud parents of two daughters, Lori, born in 1969, and Toni, born in 1973.

Sergeant Woods left Sears in 1978 and joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department that same year beginning in the custody division. In 1979, he received an Associate's degree from Glendale Junior College. During this time, he quickly advanced in the department, was promoted to the Transportation Bureau and then to Field Operations in 1982 serving various stations throughout Los Angeles County. Eventually, he was given the responsibility for conducting background investigations of potential deputy sheriff trainees. Finally in 1996, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and transferred to the Norwalk station. During this time he served as a patrol sergeant and acting watch commander. Sergeant Woods was also active in the department's community relations outreach in areas such as the ride share program, civilian volunteer program, reserve program and special programs to name just a few.

I want to personally express my warmest wishes to Sergeant Michael G. Woods and his family as they embark on the next phase of their life's journey. The people of Los Angeles County and the State of California have been exceptionally well served by his dedication and devout public service.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE LOCK-BOX ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 13, 2001

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, in this time of unprecedented budget surpluses, the first and most important responsibility Congress has is to protect Social Security and Medicare, and the senior citizens they serve. On February 13th, the House of Representatives took this first step when it overwhelmingly passed H.R. 2, the Social Security and Medicare Lockbox Act of 2001.

I was proud to support this bill, as I did last year. H.R. 2 prevents any other legislation or amendment from dipping into Social Security or Medicare Trust Fund Surpluses. This proposed lockbox would ensure that trust fund surpluses can only be spent on their intended uses of retirement and health care security.

Until we enact Social Security and Medicare reform legislation, which I hope we will do in

this Congress, all trust fund surpluses will be used to pay down the national debt. The money cannot be used for any other programs or spending projects, period. Before we consider tax cuts, we owe our seniors no less than this.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING REPRESENTATIVE JIM ASLANIDES

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following to my colleagues:

Whereas, Representative Aslanides has been named to the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee.

Whereas, Representative Aslanides will serve on the Energy and Environment, and Health and Family Services Committees.

Whereas, Representative Aslanides has continuously demonstrated his commitment and love for his family, his community and his country, I am honored to call him a friend.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF RICHARD A. VANDER EYK

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Police Chief Richard A. VanderEyk, who retired from the Pleasant Ridge Police Department on February 2, 2001.

Chief VanderEyk's public service began in March of 1967 when he entered the United States Air Force. After his discharge from the Air Force, Chief VanderEyk was employed as an officer with the Pleasant Ridge Police Department in 1973. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1988 and to Chief in 1991.

Chief VanderEyk earned an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice and continued to improve his skills through education. He attended the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police Criminal Justice Management Institute's New Chiefs School in 1991 and in 1997–1998 the Police Staff and Command School at Eastern Michigan University.

Chief VanderEyk has supported the law enforcement community at every level. Beginning with his membership in the Fraternal Order of Police, then extending to the National Association of Chiefs of Police and the Michigan Association of Police. He also served as treasurer and a member of the executive board for the Oakland County Association of Chiefs of Police.

Throughout his life, dedication and hard work have been synonymous with this outstanding public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief VanderEyk for his years of public service and in wishing him and his wife, Jacqueline, good health and happiness in the years ahead.